



Scouting Aruba joins in the International Centenary celebration of Scouting with a commemorative walk

On Wednesday evening, August 1, the young people of various troops of Scouting Aruba and civilians gathered at the Roly Bisslick Olympic Pool in Saveneta to conduct a “caminata” or fun walk, in honor of the 100th anniversary of scouting.

In 1907, Lord Baden-Powell ran an experimental camp, on Brownsea Island on the South of England, for 20 young boys from different social backgrounds. This became the start of the world’s largest youth organization, which today counts twenty-eight million members in troops located in 218 countries and territories around the world.

This year is also the 150th celebration of the birthday of Lord Baden-Powell. Various Aruban scout troops came to walk dressed in full regalia, and were joined by a number of parents and health conscious civilians, some of them former scouts themselves. In the 100 years of its existence, international scouting estimates more than 500,000,000 women and men from most countries and cultures in the world have promised to live by the Scout Promise and Law.

Wednesday’s walk was a pleasant sunset journey of five kilometers along Aruba’s southern shore from the pool in Saveneta to the Isla d’Ora and back.

The walk was conducted on August 1, as even though celebrations are continuing throughout the year, this is the date when Lord Baden-Powell raised the flag on the first day of his scout camp. The Scouting International Jamboree is now taking place in London, England, at Hylands Park, to which Aruba has sent a delegation. Aruban scouts, along with 40,000 others joined in the very special Sunrise Celebration that not only commemorated the Centenary of scouting, but also the beginning of a new century of this organization that has helped to encourage fine ideals and a drive to achieve in young people.

Staff of THE NEWS offers a hearty *pabien* to all members of scouting everywhere on this landmark occasion!